

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 774

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Alex Merritt, 2008
Valedictorian of Sevier County High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Alex Merritt is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2008 graduating class at Sevier County High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Alex Merritt has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Mr. Merritt has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, an exceptionally well-rounded young man, Alex Merritt balances his rigorous academic regimen with participation in numerous extra-curricular activities, including the Beta Club, FCA, Young Life, National Honor Society and service as a member of the tennis team; and

WHEREAS, exhibiting tremendous leadership skills, Mr. Merritt was chosen as a delegate to the 2007 American Legion Boys' State, has attained the rank of Eagle Scout, and served as President and worship leader of the First United Methodist of Sevierville Youth Group; in addition, he served as worship leader for FCA and Young Life and is on the administrative board of his church; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards or accolades, Mr. Merritt is a Niswonger Scholarship nominee, a Sevier County High School Super Sevierian, and a participant in the University of Tennessee's annual math competition; and

WHEREAS, Alex Merritt's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merritt's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Kent and Sarah Merritt, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Alex Merritt's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2008 Sevier County High School Valedictorian, Alex Merritt, on his impressive academic achievement and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.